

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Eurasia Regional
Program Title:	Strengthened Humanitarian Responses to Crises
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	123-0310
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$2,000,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$346,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$2,000,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 1998
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2007

Summary: This strategic objective supports critical shelter and health needs, de-mining activities, and a small loan program in Nagorno-Karabakh (NK).

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Shelter and Health (\$2,000,000 FSA). USAID will address humanitarian needs by supporting housing and school repairs, primary health care, irrigation, potable water/sanitation, and subsistence agriculture. With regard to shelter, work will focus on repairs to damaged houses identified through assessments.

In health, earlier NK programs focused on meeting the most urgent child survival and safe motherhood needs and priorities by repairing district maternity wards and village level health posts. The current program will provide needed additional repairs to central and regional hospital departments (e.g. emergency care and infectious diseases) and polyclinics, and provide training, basic equipment, and essential pharmaceuticals, with a continued focus on the most critical health needs, including child survival, primary health care, and post-war trauma. Training will continue to stress fundamental medical principles including hygiene and pre- and post-natal care. De-mining work, micro-finance lending, and business training will also continue. Principal contractors or grantees are Fund for Armenian Relief, HALO Trust, and the United Methodist Community on Relief (UMCOR), and AREGAK, a local foundation.

FY 2005 Program:

Shelter and Health (\$2,000,000 FSA). USAID intends to continue repairing remaining damaged homes, selected hospital departments, polyclinics, and rural health posts. Based on needs, it may also provide basic medical equipment, supplies, and essential pharmaceuticals with associated training. Assistance may also be provided in areas of school repair, irrigation, and potable water/sanitation as identified in needs assessments. De-mining, micro-finance lending, and business training will likely continue. Principal contractors or grantees are Fund for Armenian Relief, HALO Trust, and UMCOR/AREGAK.

Performance and Results: In FY 2003 the Humanitarian Assistance Program to the Residents of NK helped to rehabilitate drinking water and irrigation systems in 11 communities with an estimated total population of 13,000 people. Community Work Groups (CWGs) were established in each case to collect user fees and maintain the system. This program also provided temporary income through short-term employment for the locally hired labor working on public works projects.

Potable water systems were renovated in 13 communities benefiting 9,500 people. In addition, 8,150 people benefited from water connections in nine sentinel sites. About 3,000 family and 80 public taps were installed in 13 communities. Thus, a total of 17,650 people benefited from this component. Training and guidance was provided to Water Committees (WC), which will ensure current and future maintenance and sustainability of the improved water systems.

The NK program helped to improve the health referral system and upgrade health clinics and posts, as well as to establish a Mobile Medical Team (MMT) which visited 16 villages each month: an estimated 40,000 people benefited from the health component. Program staff used these visits to train local medical staff, and upgrade patient records/ procedures. Local and expatriate health experts conducted 42 training seminars and workshops in target communities for midwives, nurses and doctors that included the following topics: prenatal care and education, post-natal care, newborn care, patient records, first aid, breast screening, WHO modules on different diseases, healthy lifestyle, and health care rules. The Resources Center in Stepanakert Maternity hospital was furnished. Students, health specialists, and others now can acquire necessary health information, as well as have access to the internet and related literature.

There is an estimated 1.5 million square meters of land in NK containing over 15,000 mines. Over a two-year period, USAID-funded teams under the de-mining project cleared an average of 37,500 sq. meters per month. This represents 52% of all land cleared as of September 2003. Training of all national staff for practical supervision and management of minefield clearing was conducted and a total of 456 minefields were surveyed. Two USAID-funded teams deployed to 61 sites, completely cleared 60 of these and handed the land back to local communities, thereby benefiting 11,500 people.

Since the start of USAID's micro-finance program in 2001 (a follow-on and expansion of USAID's earlier program), UMCOR has extended 5,168 loans (1,215 from grant funds and 3,953 from the revolving loan fund).

Under the Task Order of the new NK Humanitarian Assistance program the contractor completed a needs assessment of all sectors in 42 villages in the Askeran region.

Continued progress in this objective will contribute to meeting the humanitarian needs of the residents of Nagorno-Karabakh Region.